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**Sent:** Saturday, September 17, 2016 9:47 AM  
**To:** Hoeschle-Zeledon, Irmgard (IITA); Bekunda, Mateete (IITA)  
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**Subject:** Updates on KK R4D Innovation meetings for 2016

Dear all,

Greetings. I am writing to update you all on the KK R4D Innovation Platform activities. This week-ending today, the KK team completed a set of three strategic meetings with District Councils of Kongwa and Kiteto and diverse stakeholder who comprise our R4D Innovation Platform. Below are the highlights:

**Meetings with the District Councils.** These meetings were held on 13th and 14th September in Kiteto and Kongwa respectively.The purpose of these meetings was to share key research outputs with our host District leadership and get their buy-in for roll-out mobilization and investment planning. The meetings involved District Executive Directors, District Council Chairs and or their deputies, District Agriculture and Livestock Officers, District Planning Officers, District Environmental Officers, relevant Council Committee members and or chairs Ward and Village Councilors and the KK research team. A briefing note was prepared for these meetings (see attached). The key outcomes are outlined below:

1. District Council leadership request the Africa RISING team to engage further with them in planning roll-out of promising technologies. The team is developing a strategy that is underpinned by seed systems to be shared with District Councils in their 2016-2017 planning set for October 2016.
2. District Councils commit to intensify engagement in mobilization for capacity development for scaling-up technologies and knowledge, awareness creation, lobby and policy support for roll –out of new innovation through various forums. They directed relevant offices (Agriculture, Livestock, Natural Resources and the District Planning) to quickly develop a strategy and plan including necessary budgets for roll-out of innovations that enhance resilience and productivity. This will be informed among others by our strategy that is needed in earnest for this purpose.

**R4D Platform meeting.** This meeting was held on 15th September in Dodoma City, involving stakeholders from Kiteto and Kongwa districts.The purpose of this meeting was to review key research outcomes that and discuss their implications for further research, roll-out mobilization and investment planning. These meetings involved the Village Executive Officers, District Agriculture and Livestock Officers, Ward and Village Councilors, Lead Farmers, agro-dealers, and the KK team. A facilitated process was used to review and prioritize research and implementation modalities as well as identify challenges and opportunities for roll-out of promising technologies. The key outcomes were:

***Delineation of roles and opportunities*** for improving access to technologies and knowledge by: (1) District Councils (District to Village levels); (2) District Agriculture and Livestock Offices; (3) Farmers and or their organizations and (4) Researchers (More details will be availed once the report is ready).

**Agreement on focus areas for further research and technology roll-out**. The “science of delivery” issues premiered e.g. Nutrition and especially safe food, informal seed systems, landscape level promotion of land and water management innovations, knowledge management among others.

**Action areas**

* A report back to the District Councils of the three meetings is being prepared, to be delivered next week (19th to 23rd).
* ICRISAT will convene a meeting in the week starting on 26th to 30th September to develop a strategy for roll out that will be provided to District Council. The plan is to bring together, selected NARS Researchers, KK District Agriculture and Livestock Officers, and the KK team.
* The KK team will participate in the Kongwa open day in response to the District Chairs invitation. The aim being to increase awareness. Preparation is underway.
* Working with DAICO’s identify new and or additional on-farm research learning sites and lead farmers.

Regards

Patrick

Dr Patrick Okori

Principle Scientist and Country Representative

ICRISAT – International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics

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